

“Dear Colleagues

It is with pride and much pleasure that I address you as the new President of the College of Paediatricians. As the new term of office begins for our Councillors may I wish them all the best for a productive and happy term. We have a great mix of some 'old' faces as well as some 'young' blood. I trust they will forgive me for referring to them in this way. I do believe that every Society today needs to cultivate new memberships and young Executives to leadership positions. Leadership should not accrue based only on seniority and age. Many young doctors in our community are excellent organisers and hard workers and have the interests of their colleagues at heart. They deserve to be recognised for these qualities. Therefore I am proud of our new Council. With regard to the idea of membership of the College of Paediatricians my mandate during my term of office is to communicate more widely and make sure that all our members have both a voice and are continually informed of the activities of Council.

This is an opportune time to thank our outgoing President, Professor Haroon Salojee for the many years of service to the College of Paediatrics and Colleges of Medicine. It is at a time like this, when I need to start planning the next round of examinations and deal with new matters that arise that it becomes abundantly clear just how much work has been done by Haroon, silently and without recognition. The task is huge and he has filled this role so significantly for so long. Thank you Haroon!”